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## LET THE NATION OWN THE TRUSTS!--A Common Sense

Although the coal strike is apparently settled for the time being—that is for a year or two people very rightly feel that no question is ever settled until it is settled right. Anti-trust feeling and anti-trust agitation is in the air.

The alarm about the trusts is quite comprehensible.

The trusts form the greatest economic and for that matter also the greatest political power this country has ever seen.

To begin with:

The American railroads whose monopoly character is daily becoming more apparent are stocked and bonded for about \$11,500,000,000, and have net earnings from operation after paying taxes, from 1900 to 1901, of \$507,966,710. The combined capitalization of telegraph, telephone, water, gas, electric light, and street railway companies is nearly \$4,000,000,000, and the capitalization of the 163 largest industrial combines in the country, according to the bulletin of the United States census, is figured at \$3,907,539,200.

The trusts have proved that under the present industrial system a small number of capitalists have it in their power to decide how much meat and how much bread we shall eat, how much we shall spend for coal and how much for oil, how nicely or how poorly we shall be clothed and housed—in brief, how well or how ill, how long or how short we shall live.

Yet the trust is the legitimate outcome of the competitive system. It is the "survival of the fittest" as the capitalists see it.

Competition under the capitalist system means the advancing of one's self at the cost of others, the pulling the many down, the elbowing the many aside, in order to benefit the one.

Heretofore it has been most cruel to the workmen whom it forced into a struggle to see who should live and who should starve.

But for the last ten or twenty years the workmen have been by no means the only sufferers. The small employers, the small merchants, are just as much victims of that cruel kind of competition as the wage-workers. The hand of each "business man" of the same branch is against every other, and no foe is more terrible than the one who is running a neck-to-neck race with him every day. The giant factory, the mammoth store are the most implacable foes of the small shop and the small store-keeper. The fierce competition lessens the profit on each article, and that must be compensated for by the production and sale of a greater number of articles; that is the cheaper the goods, the more capital is required.

Precisely, then, for the same reason that the mechanic with his own shop and workshop on his own account has nearly disappeared in the struggle between hand-work and machine-work, the small employers with their little machinery, their small capital and their scanty stock of goods are driven from the field. The great capitalist naturally triumphs. And to the few remaining in the field their BUSINESS SENSE dictates CO-OPERATION INSTEAD OF COMPETITION. Should the "law" come after them, they will simply give up the little shadow of separate business and rivalry and go into partnership—form a gigantic stock company, as for instance the members of the meat trust have done a few weeks ago.

### THE TRUSTS ALWAYS RAISE PRICES.

And the evils that accompany the trusts' business activities are many. The end of all business nowadays is to MAKE MONEY. And while production on a large scale allows the adoption of improved and cheaper methods, and while the resulting economy of cost would enable the trust to lower the price of the product to the consumer, none of the trusts does any such thing.

Some of the trusts have done so temporarily. But it is only right to say that the formation of trusts has resulted in HIGHER PRICES than were paid by the consumers before. Building material, for instance, went up 40 and in some cases 100 per cent, by the formation of the trusts—coal even at normal times and when there is no strike, has gone up to \$7.10 a ton, although it could be sold at a good profit for HALF THE PRICE charged and living wages be paid to the poor, oppressed miner—and the extortions of the meat trust from the people, as well as from the cattle raisers, have just led to a government investigation, while the workmen of the packing-houses are treated in a way that boggles description.

In short: The economies resulting from improved and cheaper methods of production undoubtedly lessen the cost of the article to the TRUST. But they are under no compulsion to give the benefit of this to their workmen in form of higher wages and shorter hours, or to the consumers through a reduced price. As business is constituted, under capitalism the prefer to take the benefits out themselves in the form of huge dividends—which are paid out, incredibly "without" capital. It must be considered a sound conclusion that if trusts multiply and raise full swing as they have had during the last two or three years they will raise the prices of commodities even higher than they are now.

Nor are these the only evils. The trusts will add to the general political corruption. Whatever a trust wants from legislators, courts, assessors and public prosecutors it will get if money can buy it. It will buy exemption from prosecution by political bosses when it is necessary. It will concern itself in sections whenever the outcome has any bearing on its pockets. It will subside newspapers, bribe voters and spread corruption whenever "duty" to its own financial interests leads. The trust has no more moral scruples about systematically committing crimes of this kind than have most individual business men, who have taken care of their business in this way before; but also in the corruption the trust is as superior to the individual in efficiency and scope as it is in its other business relations.

This system of corruption must break down or society will. But what can be done?

Shall we enact laws to regulate the prices which the trusts demand for their wares? Shall we make it impossible under the present economic system. It

In Wisconsin three leading railroads have controlled legislation for the last sixteen years; their lobby has boasted that in the sixteen years of their service not one bill ever passed that was objected to by the railroad corporations; at least until it was changed to suit them."

The above is from a campaign leaflet issued by the Republican party. Now the Republicans were in power for sixteen years during that time and the Democrats two terms—the years while Lobbyist George W. Peck was governor, and during that time the Republicans now tell us the railroads were in control of all railway legislation! Now, the same sort of men were candidates for office in those years as at present, i. e., supporters of the capitalist system. If they could be bought up, why not now? And especially as the Republicans are in a deal to send John C. Spooner, the ex- railroad lobbyist and attorney, back to Congress! Neither of the capitalist parties can bring the people relief. With old party politicians money talks. Every self-respecting voter should keep his conscience clear by voting the Social Democratic ticket.

We demand—  
1. That the state Legislature, the governor and our representatives in Congress shall take such action as is calculated to bring about the nationalization of all the trusts, notably the coal trust, the meat trust, the oil trust, the sugar trust, the farming machinery trust, and others of the same kind, and pay the actual value for the same.—State platform.

Robert La Follette's "reforms" amount to nothing as far as the masses of the people are concerned. His primary election law, even if it were perfect, which it is not, would at the best be simply another measure pertaining to the method of election. It would leave conditions as they are. His tax reforms would have even with some of the lobbyists of the railroads corporations of this state, which in itself showed that this is an evidently capitalist measure. La Follette poses as a reformer because he happens to receive the personal displeasure of a clique of capitalists who had confidence in the Republican party and were about to lose it. Any man who votes for La Follette because he is a reformer and not a capitalist, the party won't. Willard's interests were on top. That was the awful game played on the voters and the voters never saw through it, and then wondered why legislation in Wisconsin became so rotten. And do you remember how Wall sat in the Legislature while Peck was governor and cracked the corporation whip over the legislators' heads? It was a dead open shut game—an awful prostitution of popular government. Are the Social Democrats wrong when they say capitalism must be abolished before we can have a clean citizenship and a clean government?

We demand—  
4. That no city in Wisconsin shall have the right to sell, lease or give away public franchises. That every city shall have the right to take possession of all its public utilities by paying to the present owners the price of the same as fixed by an impartial jury; and that every city and township shall have the right to issue bonds up to the amount of 5 per cent. of the entire tax valuation, for that purpose.—State platform.

When La Follette tells about the wonderful prosperity of the people he knows he is lying. Only the capitalists are prosperous, and some of them are being eaten up by the others.

We demand—  
1. That the state Legislature, the governor and our representatives in Congress shall take such action as will be calculated to bring about the national ownership of the railroads, telegraphs, telephones, express companies and steamship lines, and pay the actual value of the same.—State platform, S. D. party.

The old idea was that the people were wards of kings. That the source of

## LET THE NATION OWN THE TRUSTS!—A Common Sense

would be meddling with the rights of the private individual and would be partial confiscation. Moreover it would not help, for the trusts would bribe the officials and prove to their satisfaction that the prices asked are just and necessary.

To ruin the trusts by special legislation would also be very difficult. Every laisser-aller of taxes would be followed by an increase in the price of the products controlled by the trusts.

Laws treating them as conspiracies would be equally valueless. It is easy enough for them to prove that they are carrying on their business in exactly the same manner as other business men. Besides, there is no law, and under the present economic system none can be enacted, effectually forbidding them to unite in one single firm.

In short, a government which stands on the basis of the present economic system is powerless against the trusts.

And the principle of the trusts—concentration instead of division, co-operation instead of competition—is also a perfectly correct principle and gives great advantages to those who avail themselves of it, in other words, to those "who are in it."

The trusts are a benefit to those who own the trusts. Yet the trusts are large enough for the whole people to feel this benefit if the whole people should own the trusts.

Therefore we contend that the whole people collectively—as a nation—should take the place of the trust magnates and become the OWNER of THE TRUSTS.

Against the trusts there is no other remedy.

### BOTH OLD PARTIES ARE TRUST RIDDEN.

But this naturally brings us to the field of politics.

And what do we find there? Very little that is apt to give us joy.

It is true, we have the one-man ballot in this country. But what good has it done so far? The great majority of the people are Republicans or Democrats because their fathers were, or because "they do not want to throw their votes away." They vote for the capitalist parties and for the trusts simply in order "not to throw their votes away!"

Both the Republican and the Democratic parties are trust ridden.

The Republican party has long been known to be the favored organization of capitalists and capitalism. The Republican party makes no secret of the fact that it represents the "vested rights" and is rather proud that it is the great conservative political organization of this country. A Senator Mark Hanna, who is by far one of the shrewdest and most polished of the leaders of his party, has expressed it in a recent speech in Akron, O.: "I have told you a year ago to let well enough alone, now I can only add to that: stand pat. This expresses the policy of the Republican party admirably. "Let well enough alone"—this robbery is all well enough for the capitalists and the trusts. Therefore stand pat!

But Senator John C. Spooner, the idol of the Republican party in Wisconsin, goes a great deal farther. In his speech at Lancaster, Wis. (October 20), he said with regard to the government ownership of coal mines:

"The great danger to the country is not from foreign nations, but at home. Put your feet on the floor citizens, on this snake which would lead the government to absorb the industries of the people. The government is the one that Washington established and Lincoln preserved. Keep it a government and do not let it become a Uncle Tom. We will find and supply the remedies without revolutionizing our form of government."

The government shall not absorb the industries of the people. And the "trusts" are the people for John C. Spooner, and the government is to be simply the tool and the servant of the trusts.

But he is willing to go a long step towards monarchy. In the same speech he said:

"If we could elect a good, strong Republican President like Theodore Roosevelt, and a strong Republican Senate and House for a term of twenty years, it would be better for the country."

There you have it: make the terms of office for our corporation attorneys and trust magnates in the United States Senate last twenty years. There is the remedy!

### LA FOLLETTE AND SPOONER STAND ON SAME PLATFORM.

The "reformer," Robert La Follette, virtually stands upon the same platform as John C. Spooner, whose re-election to the Senate he is urging. La Follette's primary election law is simply a little change in the machinery of election and would not change an iota in any important question before the people. As a "reformer" Robert La Follette is as unglamorous humbug—and the factional fight in the Republican party of Wisconsin is due mainly to the wounded pride of a few big capitalists who were heretofore the leaders and machine-masters.

But if the Republican party is "conservative" and wants the present exploitation and legalized robbery kept up, the Democratic party is even worse. The Democratic party is also entirely in the grip of the trusts. Especially is this the case in Wisconsin under the leadership of David S. Rose, the "pal" of the asphalt trust and the ally of the street car monopoly, the man who, significantly enough, made his first appearance in Milwaukee as a Lieutenant of the Darlington Rifles in 1886, when some strikers were shot dead. The Democratic party has thrown away the worn-out mask of the "trust-killer" Bryan. The Democrats of Wisconsin have the hearty support of the "stalwarts" of the Republican party, and it may be said that outside of Tammany Hall in New York there is not a more corrupt political organization in the country than the Rose machine in Milwaukee. But the trust domination in the Democratic party is not a local affair.

La Follette, the sugar trust magnate, is a great Democratic light. President

When the old parties fight each other their coal. The miners' children must again pick the slate from the chutes in the breakers with bleeding fingers. The miners' wives must again try to keep house on high, robber, company-store prices. The miners' daughters are still in the mills. The whole situation is horrid and inhuman. The miners are as much in need of rescue as ever. The people need the mines as much as before. Only one way is open to serve the miners and the public. A growing Social Democratic vote. The people have gotten over their misapprehensions as to Socialism and socialist agitation will now go forward as never before. Converts will be made with still greater rapidity. We will have public ownership of the mines—and more than that!

We demand—

6. That the state Legislature, the governor and our representatives in Congress shall take such action as will be calculated to enact a law granting every wage-worker over 60 years of age, who has earned less than \$1000 a year and has been a citizen of the United States for sixteen years at least, a pension of not less than \$12 a month for the rest of his life.—State platform.

The capitalist parties have always played the people for suckers in Wisconsin. The Rose present (see the game?) and plans made by which Redner was to be nominated by the Democrats and then boomed by the "Railway Men's Political League," a fake organization of capitalist lackeys, to be supplied with the necessary corruption money by the railroad companies, the street car system in Milwaukee and Wall at the head of the Villard Electric Lighting Company—in other words, Payne and Wall were business partners! Whichever capitalist party won Villard's interests were on top. That was the awful game played on the voters and the voters never saw through it, and then wondered why legislation in Wisconsin became so rotten. And do you remember how Wall sat in the Legislature while Peck was governor and cracked the corporation whip over the legislators' heads? It was a dead open shut game—an awful prostitution of popular government. Are the Social Democrats wrong when they say capitalism must be abolished before we can have a clean citizenship and a clean government?

We demand—

7. That the state Legislature, the governor and our representatives in Congress shall take steps calculated to bring about the enactment of a national law by which the government of the United States will lend the cities and townships money on bonds issued by said cities and townships up to 50 per cent. of the assessed valuation. Such loan shall be made in legal tender and without interest, the refund to take place in twenty years in equal shares. This money shall have its intrinsic value secured by the bonds and the assessed valuation of the city or township that receives the loan, under certain legal conditions made demand for the same bonds. We also demand legislation enabling school districts in the country to give better school facilities and free transportation to and from school for the children.—State platform, S. D. party.

We demand—

8. That laws be enacted limiting the working day of youths under 21 years of age and women of any age employed anywhere in Wisconsin to eight hours a day, and prohibiting the employment in any factory, store, workshop or mine of children under 16 years of age.—State platform.

## Talk to Wide Awake Citizens.

dent Baer of the Philadelphia & Reading, who claims the partnership of the Almighty in subduing the starved miners, is a Democrat. It was a Democrat (Puttisoni who, as governor of Pennsylvania, sent 8000 militiamen to Homestead in 1892 to break down the strike).

David S. Rose is now the Democratic candidate for governor and poses as a great friend of the working men and especially of the union men. And Mr. Rose, who formerly used to denounce every trust—except those with whom he had a business relation, as for instance the asphalt trust—has shut up on the trusts entirely since he is backed by the "Stalwart Republicans" in his gubernatorial aspirations. David S. Rose, the man without a principle and without a scruple, stands for the Democratic party of Wisconsin—a party without a principle and without a scruple.

No, there is no hope for the people in supporting either of the old parties.

What are the people to do? Must progress stop? Are we to go back to feudalism and barbarism because the economic interests of the capitalist class dominate both of the old parties?

No.

The same economic causes which developed capitalism are leading to Socialism, which will abolish both the capitalist class and the class of wage workers, and the active forces in bringing about this new and higher order of society is the Social Democratic party.

The Social Democratic party says:

Our progress, our production on a large scale, the mighty accumulation of capital makes monopoly a necessary condition. Monopoly is here, whether we wish it or not.

The question, therefore, is only whether it shall be a private or a public monopoly.

The question is, do we wish to leave the products of this country in the control of a small number of irresponsible men, whose only interest is to exploit us up to the last limit of our endurance?

Do we wish to leave to a small clique the monopoly of all things which make life good and desirable? Do we wish to make them absolute masters of all the necessities of our lives?

No, and a thousand times no!

The usual argument made in defense of a vicious system is not that it is right and ought to stay, whether you like it or not.

We believe that in a civilized country the question is not what is, but what ought to be and that every proposition must be arraigned of reason. If you can prove that a thing is good, let it stay, but if you cannot prove that it is good, it cannot hide behind the assertion that it is here and must stay. We believe that American people can get rid of anything that they do not want—and that they ought to get rid of everything that is not good.

The wage system did not exist always. It followed the feudal system.

The wage system was a step in the evolution to freedom, but only a step; and without the trades' unions and labor associations the wage system would lead society into a state that would only be a fall from feudalism. There can be no social freedom nor complete justice until there are no more hirings in the world; until all become both the employers and the employed of labor, of society.

### RULE OF CAPITAL BY THE PEOPLE DEMANDED.

There is but one deliverance from the rule of the people by capital—and that is the rule of capital by the people. If much of what has been considered private property is to be absorbed in great monopolistic ownership, as seems the inevitable outcome of the competitive struggle, then the people should become the monopolists.

The only hope for the people for either industrial or political freedom lies in their gradually taking possession of the machinery, forces and production of the great industrial monopolies and establishing the co-operative commonwealth. And the people can do no better than make a beginning by expropriating the trust owners, railroad kings and monopolists.

The contention that the Social Democrats have not the majority as yet, is vain; every great party had a beginning once, and formed a minority, and the Republican party when it was formed in 1854 and had a purpose in view was a very small minority indeed. A man voting for a principle never throws his vote away; better to vote for what you want, even if you do not get it, than vote for what you do not want, and get it. The "phrase" of getting on the band wagon is a stupid phrase—it is not you, but the politician, the crack, the capitalist or the office-seeker who is on the "band

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The first step in the revolution of the working class is to raise the proletariat to the position of democracy.—Karl Marx.

WISCONSIN CANDIDATES.

SOCIAL DEMOCRATIC PARTY.

For Governor—Emil Seidel of Milwaukee.

For Lieutenant Governor—Robert Saltiel of Sheboygan.

For Secretary of State—Edward Ziegler of Milwaukee.

For State Treasurer—H. J. Ammann of Kiel.

For Attorney General—Richard Eisner of Milwaukee.

For Superintendent of Public Instruction—Edwin R. Evans of Brodhead.

For Railway Commissioner—Oscar S. Lowry of Milwaukee.

For Insurance Commissioner—Arnold Zander of Two Rivers.

CLASS-CONSCIOUSNESS IN 'FRISCO.

There are many lessons to be learned from the experiences of the Union Labor party in San Francisco, and it seems to be having more experiences than it quite knows what to do with. The party sprung up almost in a night as the result of labor troubles in which capitalism showed its bloodthirsty "love" for the workers in various characteristic ways. Labor woke up to the fact that both the old parties were parties of capitalism and wholly venal so far as the toilers' interests were concerned. A convention was held, a candidate named Schmitz, was nominated for mayor, tremendous campaign meetings were held and on election day the all-conquering power of the labor vote, when once united, was shown by the triumphant election of the Labor candidate. San Francisco seems to have been as well governed as it was before, probably better, and the benefits to labor have been quite marked. This was well shown in the recent street car strike. The capitalist railway magnates demanded of the mayor that he put police men on the cars "to protect property and human lives." The mayor refused. The company was aghast with astonishment; such "protection" had always been had before, and without it their hope of crushing the men was gone. Finding they could not use the power of the law as a weapon against the men, they threw up the sponge and the victory of the street car operators was complete!

The advent of the Labor party gave the Socialists of San Francisco no little concern. Naturally they felt that their own party being a labor party and being already in the field, the new party had no excuse for existence. The wiser ones, however, saw that there was nevertheless a gain to the labor movement by the breaking away from the old superstition of "no politics in the unions," and that any political uprising and awakening on the part of the exploited masses, temporarily disadvantageous though it might be to the Socialist organization, was yet liable ultimately to be a gain to the revolutionary movement and to force the masses to the contemplation of the principles of Socialism.

Mayer Schmitz's remarks after election showed his political "bringing-up" in the Republican party, and up to the time of the street car episode, it was felt that the mayor's office was merely filled by a Republican in disguise, one who was ready to accept an old party nomination for governor and deliver over his following to the capitalists on the next election day. This seems to have been an unwarranted suspicion, or else the mayor has himself developed toward Socialism since he has been in office, probably the latter.

The other day a big meeting of the Laborites was held in San Francisco to decide whether the party should go into the state campaign. Mayor Schmitz was one of those who counseled against it and his speech seemed to have a pretty clear ring to it. He said he considered his opinion as simply that of one man, that he wanted it understood he was a candidate for no office, being mayor of the city. "While I have been in office only a short time I have been enabled to do some good for the working men of San Francisco, and I want to continue to do it." He advised against a state campaign, as the party had no state organization nor the time to develop one. And he said:

"There is another very grave proposition that I wish to guard you against and to talk to you about. It has been with a great deal of amusement that I have heard on all sides the workingmen's convention here in Milwaukee. The local candidates say, 'If I am nominated for the Republican or Democratic ticket the labor convention will endorse me.' Will it? (Cries of 'No! no!') I have heard sensible men say: 'If we can get this man nominated on our ticket, we will get the endorsement from the labor convention. (Cries of 'No! no!') I have said to you it

have heard that with amusement. It has been a great source of mirth because we realize that there is no man, there is no set of men that can control the labor party of this city. (Applause). And I warn you as you value your organization, as you value the future success of the party that has started out under such good auspices, to endorse no one."

Many of the speeches made by others showed devotion more or less to Socialistic principles and would seem to indicate that the same growth toward Socialism observed in labor's ranks in other parts of the country is not lacking in San Francisco. Deafening applause greeted the class-conscious utterances that were made and at the conclusion the meeting adopted a resolution to the effect that "the Labor party will not endorse any of the candidates placed in nomination by the Democratic and Republican parties."

The going into politics independently by the San Francisco workers was a distinct step in the right direction, but it will never be a safe movement until it becomes clearly identified with the Socialist movement. The party needs a deep moral purpose and an aim toward the emancipation of the workers. Else it is a ship without a destination. Only a Socialist purpose can safeguard it from the piracy of capitalism. That the convention proscribed only the capitalist parties in its resolution is significant. It is probable that its members will largely vote the workers' state ticket, that of the Socialists. In fact that was as much as understood.

WHAT A SOCIAL DEMOCRAT WILL DO

Comrade George C. Cutting, a member of the Typographical union, who is the congressional candidate of the Socialists in the Eleventh Massachusetts district, opened his campaign at Roxbury the other day. He spoke like a practical man. Among other things, he said:

"In the event of my election to Congress I shall introduce a bill exercising the right of eminent domain for the possession of the entire machinery of production, distribution and communication, owned, possessed and operated through trust management, etc. The entire railroad, telephone, telegraph systems, all wells, water, telephone, working equipment, with a provision for the co-operative management of the same, with an eight-hour day for workers, and a gradual reduction in hours as the service and convenience of the public will allow.

"I will introduce a bill for the abolition of contract work; a bill providing for the sale of passenger cars, stock and accident insurance; a bill providing for the establishment of the United States steamship service to operate in connection with government railways, and thus facilitate foreign exchange of commodities, which would abolish the evils conditions imposed through the international steamship trust lately organized by J. Pierpont Morgan. The world stands in the protection of the laborers in possessing the wealth they create against the exploitation of either private or trustful capital."

"The tariff question is not a problem especially interesting to the proletarian mercantile men, but simply a question of interests between the Democratic bourgeoisie, small capitalists and trustees and the Republican bourgeoisie of capitalistic, or, in other words, a dispute between the small and large capitalists, both of whom exploit the laborer to the extent of their power. Free trade would encourage and consummate international trusts."

"I would favor the taxing of corporations to the full extent of the value created by the people—the surplus value or unearned income."

"I favor the initiative and referendum, proportional representation, and the right of recall of officials by their constituents; senators to be elected by the people; the abolition of jurisdiction of equity courts in injunction cases in labor disputes; liberal expenditures in public improvements employing labor; reduction in military expenses; withdrawal from Porto Rico and the Philippines, guaranteeing local self-government."

"I would introduce a bill providing for the organization of a co-operative industrial government establishing a congress of industry with per capita representation from every department of art and manufacture, as a substitute for the present political government, which stands for private interests against the public welfare and advancement."

John Donovan, a self-taught Democratic kid, who leaped into Milwaukee a few years ago with a flimsy knowledge of law and a regular bargain-counter supply of girls, is the Democratic nominee for Congress from the Fourth district. As a rule the girls are not much attracted at the bluster of a little police constable, whose stock in trade consists of an alleged stand-in with the judges so that his candidate is not likely to arrest the onward march of industrial evolution. Like most Democrats, Donovan's motto is: Anything to get into office. So he has gotten up a list of principles he claims to stand for. First, he wants to abolish the trusts, which shows his ignorance of economics. And then he wants to nationalize the coal mines—all cheap bluster. Donovan at home belongs to the sporty crowd of disreputables who believe in administration protected gambling houses and other suspicious indications of municipal corruption. But if the people will only send him to Congress he promises to be an angel!

The Social Democratic movement is international. It is sweeping round the world. There is a Social Democratic party even in Japan and in the South American countries. Success in one part of the world is quickly heralded to the other countries by the Socialist press and helps to cheer on the general advance of socialism on the frontiers of capitalism. Socialism is the greatest moral force the world has yet seen, and that it spreads just at the time when capitalism has filled society with rot, deceit and rascality, shows that man is inherently good, and is anxious to reach the goal of true brotherhood.

Of course some voting chumps will vote for La Follette's reforms, expecting to make it easier to live thereafter. They will find groceries and everything else as hard to get as ever! The only way to get real relief is to vote for Socialism and keep on voting for it till you get it.

"My Country, 'tis of Thee," sang a lot of voting chumps at the Shaw meeting at the Pabst Theater the other night, after the secretary of the treasury had been giving them an old-time dose of tariff taffy. They never stopped to think who this country really belonged to. Scarcely any of them owned a foot of it. They simply live in the country because the capitalists permit it! But on the stage—aah! The stage was full of millionaires, Shaw among the rest. See the point?

The influence of the 5000 hankers in this country has been such that they have had Congress pass laws that give them the use of \$347,630,020 of bank bills without interest. This money produces them a revenue of more than \$20,000,000 a year. And lately we read of Mr. Shaw, secretary of the treasury of the United States:

"In order to relieve the money market, the secretary of the treasury will offer to anticipate all government bond interest maturing between October 1 and the end of the fiscal year—thus releasing for use of business men and banks in round numbers \$30,000,000."

Now we ask the following question: Why does government respond so warmly when the bankers need \$30,000,

## SOCIAL DEMOCRATIC HERALD.

000, and respond not at all when hundreds of thousands of men need employment, in the cold winter, or during times of panic?

Since it is possible for the government to pay out interest on bonds in advance, would it not be possible to arrange to give work to those who need it?

Could not some scheme be devised even for lending government money to the small individual now at the mercy of usurers?

Could not public roads, canals and other enterprises give work to the man actually seeking employment for his hands?

Is there not some way of securing a national administration which will feed the needs of a great number of poor men as keenly as the present administration feeds the needs of a small number of rich men?

Rand the Social Democratic platform and find the answer.

In Beloit, Wis., some misguided labor men were led to put up one of their number as a Republican candidate for the legislature, and gave it out that if elected he will help send John C. Spooner back to the United States Senate. Just what interest the workingmen of Beloit have in getting Spooner, the ex-railway lobbyist and co-employee bid killer, back to where he can help pass

and it means that we should require less than half the labor and half the energy to obtain double the amount of necessities and happiness.

### NOTES BY THE WAY.

Speaking literally as well as figuratively, child labor is child murder.—United Labor Journal.

What progress has been made in labor legislation in the last few years in Pennsylvania? Exactly the same scenes are being enacted there now as at Homestead, where Andrew Carnegie was fighting the steel workers.—Typographical Journal.

At a dinner recently ex-Speaker Thomas B. Reed gave full details of famous trials, the number of accused. Being in the right place at the right time and doing the right thing, or, better still, making people think that you are doing the right thing, is about all there is to fame."

THA man is independent he is not free. The man who is in danger of want is not a free man, and the country which does not guard him against this danger, or does not insure him the means of a livelihood, is not a free country, though it may be the freest of the free countries. The workingman is a slave to capital and to the capitalist. The workingman is a slave to the capitalist, and the capitalist is a slave to the workingman. The workingman is a slave to the capitalist, and the capitalist is a slave to the workingman. The workingman is a slave to the capitalist, and the capitalist is a slave to the workingman. The workingman is a slave to the capitalist, and the capitalist is a slave to the workingman.

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**Socialist Light on the Trust Problems.**

The People Must Get on the Inside.

The spirit of invention has multiplied human efforts in a hundred directions, and increased a hundredfold man's power over nature. In all civilized countries it has raised up from the masses the greatest plutocracy the world has ever seen, and in this a century which seemed but an making equality one of its chief social goals—a plutocracy that is now everywhere at its zenith.

But events are still marching on with their relentless logic. Nowhere has this plutocracy had such perfect liberty of action as in the United States. And nowhere has come over industry and business here a startling change which is going on with such rapidity as to suggest the complete abandonment of the principle by which the industries of the nation have hitherto been developed. This change is the formation of the "trusts."

What is a "trust"? A "trust" means the merging of corporations into a body outside the control of the government or the state. A trust is a body whose executive board has full power to limit or centralize production, consolidate establishments, purchase raw materials, and supervise selection of prices, terms and conditions. The object of this is greater regularity of production, steadiness of prices, and a uniform system of credit, as well as the prevention of competition.

But the trust also brings before the public mind the dilemma whether we are to have organized capital or organized people's government to rule us; for this is perfectly evident that under conditions as they are our nation cannot continue to develop normally and healthily unless we take some action to control the means by which we live. In other words, there can be nothing else than Socialism.

Observe: Every trust is a concession to Socialism and its working principles. It is a practical confession of the Socialist charge that competition necessarily involves great waste and that by concealing the cost of production can be materially lessened. The "trust" is an ap-

peal to the people to merge what a letter to New York or San Francisco would cost, and imagine what small wages the letter carriers would get, provided that boys would not be put in their places. But the profits would not doubt be a billion and bigger than those of the Western Union Telegraph Company or any other company of that kind and would go into the pockets of some plutocrats.

In short, why should the people not trust their own government properly organized for the benefit of the people, but rather trust organized capital, organized for the benefit of the capitalists?

During the last industrial crisis (1893-94) fully one-third of the railroads were bankrupt and were put under the control of the government in order to be put on their feet again. The question was then asked by many: Since the government can profitably conduct a bankrupt railroad by means of a receiver, why should the government not be able to carry on a railroad before it is bankrupt?

In short, the only possible solution for the trust problem, and the only solution that is final, is that the Nation own the Trusts!

And though so and fifteen subscriptions came in to swell the list of the Herald, it is an imperative necessity for the cause to have such a man as Comrade Conrad Gaylord, who was organizing in the following states: We now have one solid phalanx of branches through the west central part of this state. These branches are receiving large associations to their membership. It pleases me to refer to the admirable foresight of Comrade Gaylord in arranging the Social-Lecture Bureau. The plan is not only to have ten thousand speakers, but to have the possibility of a considerable shortage in the finances of the executive board as a result of the state campaign and I am confident that all the comrades here will co-operate with me in the endeavor to help adjust the shortage when made known to us after the election. I allude to these matters at this time in anticipation that comrades throughout the state will be informed of the conditions early.

R. O. Stoll.

Sheboygan, Wis., Oct. 20.—Social Democratic Herald: Robert Saitel, the editor of Sheboygan Volksblatt and candidate for lieutenant governor on the Socialistic state ticket, spoke by request in the Church of Christ, Erie Avenue and Tenth street, Sheboygan, on Sunday morning, October 19, to a pleased audience, on the following subject: "Why am I a Socialist?" All concerned seemed to be pleased with the speaker and the statements made. F. W. Hecker, Pastor.

Comrade A. S. Edwards of Chicago held meetings last week at Chilton and New Holstein. He says "I do not know that I have ever found people so eager to hear Socialism discussed as they were at those points." At New Holstein he had an audience of 2000, and in his address there was dissatisfaction. Great headed men vied with young men in congratulating the speaker. A number of Kiel comrades were present. Comrade Charles Plantz of Haywood presided at the New Holstein meeting.

Comrade Wilshire spoke at Madison in the Assembly Chamber to a big audience, mostly students among the rest. He was introduced by Comrade Frank V. Cross, a student. At the close of the address many people in the struggle of life people versus capitalism were brought out.

The Wilshire meeting in Milwaukee was a record breaker in its way, inasmuch as it was held in an aristocratic district. The Ethical Hall is a large one, but the crowd that descended upon it would have filled three or four. Fully 3000 people were there. Many of the stalwarts from a premium club were distributed. Great headed men vied with young men in congratulating the speaker. A number of Kiel comrades were present. Comrade Charles Plantz of Haywood presided at the New Holstein meeting.

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At Green Bay the comrades made a charge at the door at the Wilshire meeting but got a good crowd, and the speaker was enthusiastically applauded. Many converts were made as result of the address. A big Wilshire meeting was held at Kenosha Tuesday evening with over 1000 people present. Watch Kenosha's vote.

The entertainment committee of the Arbeiter Kranken und Sterbe Kasse No. 156 has arranged an entertainment at Fred Gemelde hall, Milwaukee.

**EVERY FAMILY NEEDS A MEDICAL BOOK.**

DR. ORER'S "A PHYSICIAN IN THE HOUSE" MEETS THAT NECESSITY.

This book is up-to-date in every particular. It will save you hundreds of dollars of doctor's bills. It tells you how to cure yourself by simple and homely remedies. It teaches how to keep health and fit by safe methods. It teaches prevention—that it is better to know how to live and avoid disease than to take any medicine as a cure. It teaches how typhoid and other fevers can be both prevented and cured. It gives the best known treatment for Grippe, Hives, Rheumatism, Consumption, Appendicitis, and every other disease. It is not an advertisement and has no medicine to sell. It has 16 colored plates, showing different parts of the human body. The chapter on Paternal Midwifery is worth its weight in gold to women. It teaches the value of air, sunshine and water and medicine. It contains valuable information for the married.

JOHN F. KERWIN,

Eau Claire, Wis., Oct. 15.—Dear Comrade: Fully 500 people gathered at Putnam's hall last evening to hear the "Milwaukee Socialist." There were business men, ministers, lawyers, a few millionaires and a sprinkling of "horny hands of toll." Comrade Wilshire is a well educated man, with a predisposition to the "English." In appearance and speech, this delivery was a success in every way and indicates a very healthful growth for Socialism. We are going to try to organize a good big branch when Gaylord comes in working order, hoping that others are looking as well elsewhere as here. John F. Kerwin.

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## Gleanings from Busy Socialistic Fields.

Notes from Yankee-land.

Comrade H. A. Gibbs of Worcester, Mass., is making speeches in New Hampshire.

Comrade J. C. Provost of Cripple Creek is the candidate of our party in Colorado for governor.

The fund for the miners sent in through the national headquarters of the Socialists now amounts to nearly \$7000.

The Socialists carried the day in the debate at the Royal Arcanum, Milwaukee, last week.

The attempt to deprive our party of its name on the ballot in Pennsylvania failed. The courts decided that the regular party name could stand.

Comrade J. Bartkowski of Chicago, editor of *Rabotnik*, is making Polish speeches in Milwaukee.

The Social Democratic Herald FREE for one year, if you get four others to subscribe at 50 cents a year.

Comrade Isaac C. Cowen of Chicago will address a meeting of mechanics, blacksmiths and patternmakers Sunday afternoon at Grove street and National avenue. All are invited.

\$5 will purchase ten Herald and ten Wilshire yearly postal subscription cards. See our advertisement in another part of the paper.

Comrade H. Gaylord Wilshire made a successful tour of the state last week. He held a big meeting at Ashland Sunday, Oct. 12, under the auspices of the Central Labor Union.

The Republicans had a brass band out last Friday night in the Thirteenth ward, but the Social Democrats had the best crowd. The speakers were Comrades Westphal, Victor L. Berger and Kiesl.

The Milwaukee central committee makes an appeal to all Socialist women to register at next registration day, October 28, and to the men members to also urge them to do so.

Bishop Spalding of Illinois, who was appointed on the arbitration board in the coal strike by the President, has just written a book on "Socialism and Labor." It will appear shortly.

Comrade Fox's debate with a representative of the Democrats did not come off, the Democrat failed to appear. However, there was a good crowd present and Comrades Fox and Rooney gave the Third ward a new experience—its decided advantage. We will have a branch in the Third before long.

The party in Missouri will not lose its influence after all. Word reaches this office that the supreme court has decided that its name can go on the ballot. The lower courts decided against us, but Comrade G. H. Turner, state chairman, began mandamus proceedings and the decision was entirely favorable.

At Vernon, Conn., last week the Socialists polled 204 votes out of the 1143 votes cast. It was a big gain. "The Socialists made the fight of their lives," says the Rockville Journal, "and secured the biggest vote in the history of their party."

Father Hagerty is now at work on a book which will be entitled "Socialism and Conscience," and will be ready for the printers about the first of the year. The work will contain 200 pages and will be Father Hagerty's personal subscription contribution to the American literature of Socialism.

**THE CONGRESSIONAL TICKET.**  
Fourth District—H. W. Blattorus, of the Eleventh Ward.  
Fifth District—Dr. Henry C. Berger of the Tenth Ward.

Thousands of Persons will receive this issue of the Herald as a sample copy. If you like it, subscribe. It's only 50 cents a year. With Wilshire's \$1.00 a year magazine—only 60 cents for both.

### For the State Campaign.

Branch 10, Milwaukee.....	50c
J. A. Zander, Milwaukee.....	1.00
C. Frazee, Neenah.....	1.00
A. Zander, Two Rivers.....	1.00
C. Kasdorf, Milwaukee.....	1.00
Louis F. Reuter, Milwaukee.....	1.00
Thomas Hougaard, Milwaukee.....	1.00
Robt. J. Miller, Milwaukee.....	1.00
John Mann, Milwaukee.....	1.00
H. Weidig, Milwaukee.....	1.00
Wm. Zastrow, Milwaukee.....	1.00
F. Uhlrich, Kiel.....	1.00
Wm. Buetow, Milwaukee.....	1.00
John Rechert, Milwaukee.....	1.00
Frank H. Thompson, Milwaukee.....	1.00
Ernest F. Andrex, Milwaukee.....	1.00
Wm. Mann, Milwaukee.....	1.00
Chas. H. Ringe, Milwaukee.....	1.00
Nic. Drant, Milwaukee.....	1.00
A. J. F. Poeltl, Milwaukee.....	1.00
Fred Haeser, Milwaukee.....	1.00
Henry Weinheimer, Milwaukee.....	1.00
Chas. Zahner, Milwaukee.....	1.00
John M. Mowry, Milwaukee.....	1.00
Chas. Treder, Milwaukee.....	1.00
J. Beckert, Milwaukee.....	1.00
E. Behr, Milwaukee.....	1.00
Max Dierleiter, Milwaukee.....	1.00
Jos. Bullesbach, Milwaukee.....	1.00
Otto Klein, Milwaukee.....	1.00
Ang. Bubulus, Milwaukee.....	1.00
F. E. Rieckhagen, Milwaukee.....	1.00
Fred Brackhausen, Milwaukee.....	1.00
E. P. Wood, Milwaukee.....	1.00
H. C. Berger, M. D., Milwaukee.....	1.00

\$44.80

### MILWAUKEE COUNTY TICKET.

County Clerk—Frederic Heath; County Treasurer—Edward W. Clark; Sheriff—George Russell; Clerk of the Courts—Max Grasse; Distraffet Attorney—Dr. Theodore Burmaster; Register of Deeds—Joseph Halaebek; County Surveyor—Jaehim Stoeter.

### THE CONGRESSIONAL TICKET.

Fourth District—H. W. Blattorus, of the Eleventh Ward.  
Fifth District—Dr. Henry C. Berger of the Tenth Ward.

### Campaign Fund.

Christ' Bochner.....	2.00
Chas. Blaibach.....	2.00
Stuart Reid Lodge, Machinists.....	10.00
Federated Trades Council.....	100.00
Cigarmakers' Union, No. 25.....	10.00
J. J. Schwerke.....	1.00
Collection at Ethical hall.....	33.10
Niles Petersen.....	10.00
Dues from branches.....	5.50
Tickets for entertainment.....	9.00

### SOCIAL DEMOCRATIC MEETINGS—MILWAUKEE.

Saturday, October 20th, hall, 404 North Avenue; speakers, Dr. H. C. Berger and Robert Meister.

Sunday, National Park hall, Twenty-second and National avenues; speakers, A. S. Edwards and C. T. H. Westphal; at 2:30 p.m., Hall, 404 North avenue; speakers, Dr. H. C. Berger and Richard Elsner; at 7:30 p.m., Volkman's hall, Twenty-first and Center streets; speakers, Dr. H. C. Berger and John Moser.

Monday, Mr. Barkowski will speak in Potawatonia in the Eighteenth ward.

Tuesday, Ogden house, 603 Market street; speakers, Dr. H. C. Berger and Carl Maekowski.

Tuesday evening, 2417 Loomis street, La Crosse, Wis.

Ang. L. Mahr, 1717 Erie avenue, Sheboygan, Wis.

Milwaukee agents:

Carl Malewski, 1151 Twenty-third street.

Paul Muehler, Brown and Thirty-first street.

Nick Petersen, 740 Thirty-second street.

Fred Leist, 404 Greenfield avenue.

**Talks with the Workers.**

In the colored camp meetings in the South they have a way of singing their hymns of appeal first slow and then with an ever quickening beat. It is almost a quickstep and the effect on the singer is quite indescribable. The impulse is strong to get in the fervent whirl with the rest. We are reminded of this by the closing days of the present campaign. Every day sees the pace growing brisker. This issue of The Herald will go into many unaccustomed places because it is being done with postal cards. Every man brings his card to his neighbor. Our Wilshire combination has caught the public. My mail and in person the orders are deluging the subscription department force. It's a goo thing—just it along: At this writing Comrade Gielstorff of Sheboygan leads the yearly brigade. He secures fifteen subscribers. Comrade Bickford of Kimberly, Ogle, can add a good second with twelve. Comrade Duhman of Wyocena was also one of the big ones. Gaylord only sent in fifty last week, but said this week would beat it. Twenty-six yearlies were bagged at the Wilshire meeting in Milwaukee. Darlington sent in 100. The hundred markable miles in Manitowoc county will read. The Herald will sweep. Last week 100,000 platforms went out flying. Comrade Marden of Kenosha and Comrade Burke of Manitowoc were Herald callers on Monday. Fifth ward hustlers have a pace aitter in Comrade Davis.

### From The Mail Bag.

En Route to Montana, Oct. 14.—Dear Herald Comrades: I have just finished ten days' work for Socialism in Colorado. The movement is splendid, beyond the expectation of all of us, and the future is secure. Not the least interesting are the comments of the local press. The Leadville (Colo.) Democratic paper recorded, "There is no doubt but that the Socialists will poll a considerable vote this fall. These people have a somewhat different way of conducting their campaign. It is on the revival order. The affair is not the point with them; it is the principle." The *Alpena (Mich.) Standard* (Dem.) describes a committee of Socialists and plain remarks "it is a perfectly harmonious convention. There is no wrangling or contention. It is like a Methodist love feast. The delegates address each other as 'brother' or 'comrade' and the only rivalry is of the Alphonse-Gaston sort." The Colorado Socialists are carrying on a most effective and thorough-going campaign. Wilshire don't they who carry some countess. Even the Colorado farmers are turning rapidly to the party. At Grand Junction

and Orchard street; speakers, Frank Coonine, E. W. Clarke and John Moser; hall, 404 North avenue; speakers, George Itssel and Robert Meister. Zicker's hall, Forty-ninth and State streets; speakers, Richard Elmer and Anton Palm.

Wednesday, Grunewald's hall, Second avenue and Orchard street; speakers, George Russel, A. D. Schwardens and Carl Malewski. Melchner's hall, Twenty-seventh and Vliet streets; speakers, Isaac Cawen and John Moser; Jacob's hall, Twelfth and Chambers streets, speakers, Emil Seidel and A. S. Edwards.

Thursday, Schmidt's hall, Bow and Carroll street; speakers, E. T. Melius and Carl Kleist. Binder's hall, 867 Kinnickinnic avenue, speakers, W. R. Gaylord and Edward Biesenbier.

Saturday, Lincoln hall, Sixth street, near Grand avenue; speaker, Thomas J. Margan. National Park hall, Twenty-second and National avenues; speakers, W. R. Gaylord, Robert Meister and Michael Heintz.

Sunday, Atlantic Club hall, 730 Pearl street; speakers, A. S. Edwards and Richard Elser. Mr. Barkowski will speak in Pollak's hall, the Eighteenth ward.

Monday, Volkman's hall, Twenty-first and Center streets; speakers, Carl Malewski, Robert Meister and Victor L. Berger.

### Across the Herring Pond.

It is claimed that only three per cent of all men who have attained to 65 years, are independent in this country.

The Socialists of Brussels have organized a high school, with a three-year course of tuition.

According to the reports of the English mine inspectors, there are 1753 women mine workers in West Lancashire, an increase of 130 as compared with last year. Among them are 213 girls from 12 to 16 years of age.

The French government has withdrawn its ambassadors at Berlin and St. Petersburg, it being said that the men were not Republicans at heart though representing a republic.

### To Women Socialists.

The last day of registration is near at hand. On the 28th the last opportunity is given you to register your name preparatory to casting your ballot for the Social Democratic candidate for school superintendent.

The women of the so-called upper classes have largely availed themselves of this privilege, and many wives and daughters of wealthy citizens are announced as on the registration list.

Surely the women of the working class should not take less interest in the coming election. Surely they have more at stake in the ultimate triumph of the Social Democratic party than any Republican or Democratic woman in the success of the party she prefers.

For the Social Democratic woman, the final victory of her party would mean so much.

It would mean deliverance from the poverty and care which prey upon her household, and keeps her nothing more than the merest household drudge. It would mean a secure future for her children, for whom she feels such anxiety.

Perhaps it is this thought that appeals most to Socialist women. The man is impatient to see the Co-operative Commonwealth in his own day, and is most interested in the hope of enjoying the benefits of Socialism in his own person.

The woman is willing to wait and work, in the happy assurance that these blessings will come to the posterity so dear to her.

It is a small thing to vote for a superintendent of schools. But she who is faithful in that which is least will be intrusted with larger duties. Many women frequently wish that it was in their power to do something for the cause of Socialism. Here is one simple duty that you may perform. Do not despise this small opportunity, but cast your first vote for the party which promises "equal civil and political rights to men and women." E. H. THOMAS.

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